

by Fourth Street Rock Crusher—and many of those teams were sponsored by the company, as well. When Yucaipa High School needed new volleyball courts, 200 tons of materials were donated by Norm Johnson and his company. When any church called, materials were supplied and delivered at no expense.

Norm Johnson worked closely with local schools long before it became fashionable for companies to “sponsor” a school. He ensured local libraries stayed in business. When San Bernardino Unified School District opened the new Arroyo Valley High School in August, Mr. Johnson advanced the city the funds needed to complete street improvements around the school.

A graduate of my alma mater, San Bernardino High, Mr. Johnson went to the University of Arizona to study business and engineering. He returned to take over Fourth Street Rock Crusher when his father became ill, and was in the office nearly every day since. His employees remember him as a tough, solid man who was unswerving in his loyalty to his company family. City officials will remember him for his insistence that they must meet his standards in supporting San Bernardino. Please join me in expressing our condolences to his wife, Merrily, and three daughters: Christi Bulot, JayAnn Stanley and Debra Ann Borden, and in praising Norm Johnson's dedication to his city and community.

CONGRESSIONAL TRIBUTE TO
GENERAL HENRY H. SHELTON,
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT
CHIEFS OF STAFF

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, General Henry H. Shelton became the fourteenth Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff on October 1, 1997, and was reconfirmed by the Senate for a second 2-year term in 1999. In this capacity, he serves as the principal military adviser to the President, the Secretary of Defense, and the National Security Council. Prior to becoming Chairman, he served as Commander in Chief of the U.S. Special Operations Command.

Born in Tarboro, North Carolina in January 1942, General Shelton earned a Bachelor of Science degree from North Carolina State University and a Master of Science degree from Auburn University. His military education includes attendance at the Air Command and Staff College in Montgomery, Alabama and at the National War College at Ft. McNair, Washington, D.C.

Commissioned a second lieutenant in the Infantry in 1963 through the Reserve Officer Training Corps, General Shelton spent the next 24 years in a variety of command and staff positions in the continental United States, Hawaii, and Vietnam. He served two tours in Vietnam—the first with the 5th Special Forces Group, the second with the 173d Airborne Brigade. He also commanded the 3d Battalion, 60th Infantry in the 9th Infantry division at Fort Lewis, Washington; served as the 9th Infantry

Division's assistant chief of staff for operations; commanded the 1st Brigade of the 82d Airborne Division at Fort Bragg, North Carolina; and served as the Chief of Staff of the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum, New York.

Following selection for brigadier general in 1987, General Shelton served 2 years in the Operations Directorate of the Joint Staff. In 1989, he began a 2-year assignment as Assistant Division Commander for Operations of the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), a tour that included the Division's 7-month deployment to Saudi Arabia for Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM. Upon returning from the Gulf War, General Shelton was promoted to major general and assigned to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he commanded the 82d Airborne Division. In 1993, he was promoted to lieutenant general and assumed command of the XVIII Airborne Corps. In 1994, while serving as corps commander, General Shelton commanded the Joint Task Force that conducted Operation UPHOLD DEMOCRACY in Haiti. In March 1996, he was promoted to general and became Commander in Chief of the US Special Operations Command.

In his 4 years as Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, General Shelton worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for military members and their families. He championed numerous initiatives including the largest across-the-board pay raise for the military in 18 years—helping to narrow the civilian-military “pay gap.” His push for pay table reform targeted greater increases for mid-grade non-commissioned officers, and his retirement reform package reinstated benefits for those entering service after 1986. Furthermore, thanks to his dedication and support, an enhanced housing allowance was implemented to gradually eliminate out of pocket expenses for service members living off post. Finally, the Chairman was a strong advocate of the effort to reform medical health care, to make medical care more responsive—to include military retirees over 65.

The Chairman made great strides to improve the readiness of the US military by articulating a regiment for increased defense spending. As a result, the Department of Defense realized a \$112 billion increase in defense spending over the 5-year defense plan to arrest declining readiness rates. He additionally implemented new processes to carefully manage high demand/low density resources in support of the National Security Strategy.

The Chairman and his staff published *Joint Vision 2020* to establish goals and the metrics for the future joint force, and he established U.S. Joint Forces Command as the proponent for Joint Experimentation and Joint Force readiness. He established Joint Task Force-Civil support to increase the military's ability to respond to crises in the US homeland and established Joint Task Force-Computer Network Operations to enhance protection of US information networks. General Shelton directed numerous initiatives designed to improve the interoperability of the four Services including a Joint Warfighting Logistics Initiative, development of a Global Information Grid, revision of all Joint Professional Military Education Pro-

grams and an enhancement on the joint warfighting focus of the Joint Requirements Oversight Council.

General Shelton's awards and decorations include the Defense Distinguished Service Medal (with 2 oak leaf clusters), Distinguished Service Medal, Legion of Merit (with oak leaf cluster), Bronze Star Medal with V device (with 3 oak leaf clusters), and the Purple Heart. He has also been awarded the Combat Infantryman Badge, Joint Chiefs of Staff (Identification Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, Military Freefall Badge, and Special Forces and Ranger Tabs and numerous foreign awards and badges.

General Shelton is married to the former Carolyn L. Johnson of Speed, North Carolina. Mrs. Shelton has been actively involved with service issues and support to military families throughout General Shelton's career. The General and Mrs. Shelton have three sons; Jonathan, a Special Agent in the US Secret Service; Jeffrey, a US Army Special Operations soldier, and Mark, their youngest son.

General Shelton represented the US military with great distinction for the past four years as its senior military officer. He participated in policy-making at the highest levels of government but never lost the common touch with our men and women in uniform. General Shelton will indeed be remembered as a soldiers' soldier and a quiet professional.

TRIBUTE TO SARA LYNN STERLING, KRISTEN ROBINSON, AND JORDAN SMITH OF LIBERTY HIGH SCHOOL

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sara Lynn Sterling, Kristen Robinson, and Jordan Smith of Liberty High School for their work in honor of all the people who both survived and who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001, their families and their friends.

These terrorist attacks marks a solemn moment in America's history. American men and women, civilians and soldiers, firefighters and police, mothers and fathers, were slain for a cause so terrible, so heinous, and so despicable that we find it unimaginable and indescribable. United, Americans seek to find meaning and hope in a seemingly hopeless and meaningless act. In the days since these terrible terrorist attacks, America has been shoulder-to-shoulder in a struggle to meet the challenges of a world that is a little less safe, a little scarier, and far less predictable. The efforts of young people like Sara Lynn Sterling, Kristen Robinson, and Jordan Smith of Liberty High School signify the commitment and concern of Americans everywhere. Our nation's strength does not lie in her military might but rather in the collective compassion of its people.

Since the September 11th, terrorist attacks, Sara Lynn Sterling, Kristen Robinson, and Jordan Smith of Liberty High School have been

decorating their fellow classmates jeans in lieu of donations for the grieving families and rescue workers. The patriotism and persistence of Sara Lynn Sterling, Kristen Robinson, and Jordan Smith of Liberty High School is a lasting memorial to the thousands of victims who perished in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Through the days, weeks, and months ahead, all Americans must come together and do what they can to assist the nation's war effort. Whether it is giving blood, sending donations, praying for the thousands of grieving families, or simply saying thanks to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day so that we may be free, it is important that the American people are vigilant in their efforts to overcome this evil. Though our nation has witnessed unspeakable horror, America's virtues, determination, and faith continues to shine brightly on the world.

I am confident that the United States will seek out those that harbor hatred, terror, and depravity in their hearts; and we will defeat them. This is a war that we must, can, and will win. May God bless the families and children grieving across this great nation and may God bless America.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOLMES RUN ACRES

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a community in Fairfax County, Holmes Run Acres, on its 50th Anniversary. This neighborhood has been providing families with the best Falls Church, Virginia has to offer for many years and is well-positioned to continue to do so in the future.

Holmes Run Acres was designed with unique contemporary architecture to save trees and blend into the Virginia countryside. When the neighborhood was in its early stages, Fairfax County was a rural area. In 1951, the county was impacted by the post-World War II development. The residents of Holmes Run Acres decided this was time to form a Civic Association, and a year later they published "The Holmes Runner," a community newsletter.

Today, they still rely on their Civic Association meetings and publications, but, in keeping with technology trends, they have their information posted on the World Wide Web. These factors promote unifying, community-wide communications network.

Holmes Run Acres built the first community swimming pool in Fairfax County. Volunteers from the neighborhood worked with the Fairfax County Park Authority to turn an old dump site into the first neighborhood park in the County. The Civic Association encourages its residents to initiate and participate in activities that bring the community together, such as house and garden tours, art shows, classes and family gatherings.

The residents of Holmes Run Acres are always available to lend a hand with many com-

munity activities, including those events that are county-wide. During the 1960s their well-established Civic Association helped create an association for a newly formed neighboring community. During the holidays, Holmes Run's children run a gift drive for needy children outside of their immediate area.

The recent publication of the third installment of "Holmes Run Acres: The Story of a Community" proves that this community is going strong year after year. The publication provides background on the community's history and residents, as well as local history and plans for future improvements.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I want to thank Holmes Run Acres for all it has provided to the community. They will be celebrating on Saturday, October 6, 2001, and they will also have another event in the spring. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in congratulating them on 50 years of service and wishing them the best in the years to come.

SOCIAL SECURITY

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation which will correct a great injustice being endured by many widows and widowers throughout this Nation. Current Social Security law requires that those who have lost spouses surrender their survivor benefits when entering into a new marriage. Many of those who have lost spouses count these benefits as their only source of income and rely upon them for continuing their daily lives. To force these men and women to abandon survivor funds simply because they enter into a marriage after their spouse's death is outrageous.

This measure would be of very modest expense to the government, and the costs incurred are certainly justified by the positive results derived from the correction of this oversight. Senior citizens, a sector of our society often plagued by low incomes and tight budgets, would be the primary beneficiaries of this legislation, and we owe it to these citizens to provide them with every possible avenue to enjoy a proper standard of living.

Mr. Speaker, this bill would ensure that those who enter into a new, long-lasting marriage are not punished simply for finding another loving spouse. It is fiscally sound and morally correct. I thank you and urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

TRIBUTE TO MISSOURI AIR GUARD'S 139TH AIRLIFT WING

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Missouri Air Guard's 139th Airlift Wing for its work and sacrifice in honor of all the people who both survived and who lost

their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11th, 2001, their families and their friends.

These terrorist attacks mark a solemn moment in America's history. American men and women, civilians and soldiers, firefighters and police, mothers and fathers, were slain for a cause so terrible, so heinous, and so despicable that we find it unimaginable and indescribable. United, Americans seek to find meaning and hope in a seemingly hopeless and meaningless act. In the days since these terrible terrorist attacks, America has been shoulder-to-shoulder in a struggle to meet the challenges of a world that is a little less safe, a little scarier, and far less predictable. The efforts of organizations like the 139th Airlift Wing signify the commitment and concern of Americans everywhere. Our nation's strength does not lie in her military might but rather in the collective compassion of its people.

Since the September 11th terrorist attacks, the 139th Airlift Wing flew to McGuire Air Force base in New Jersey to bring back Missouri's Task Force One whose 65 volunteers had spent more than a week at Ground Zero in an effort to support the search and rescue effort. The patriotism and persistence of the 139th Airlift Wing is a lasting memorial to the thousands of victims who perished in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania.

Through the days, weeks, and months ahead, all Americans must come together and do what they can to assist the nation's war effort. Whether it is giving blood, sending donations, praying for the thousands of grieving families, or simply saying thanks to the brave men and women who put their lives on the line each and every day so that we may be free, it is important that the American people are vigilant in their efforts to overcome this evil. Though our nation has witnessed unspeakable horror, America's virtues, determination, and faith continues to shine brightly on the world.

I am confident that the United States will seek out those that harbor hatred, terror, and depravity in their hearts; and we will defeat them. This is a war that we must, can, and will win. May God bless the families and children grieving across this great nation and may God bless America.

COMMENDATION OF COAST GUARD

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 4, 2001

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the men and women of the United States Coast Guard who have come to the rescue of South Texas communities of South Padre Island, Port Isabel and Brownsville.

Very early Saturday morning, Sept 15th, the Queen Isabella Causeway, the bridge that connects South Padre Island to the mainland was hit by a barge, resulting in sections of the bridge falling into the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway. Nine cars crashed into the water of the Laguna Madre, rocking the community with the fear that terrorists had struck in South Texas since it occurred the weekend following the World Trade Center and Pentagon attacks.